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PAGE 01 LONDON 01472 01 OF 03 271254Z POSS DUPE
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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: XV, UK, TGEN
SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC TREATY: NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING:
FOURTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING

REF: (A) LONDON 1114; (B) STATE 11134; (C) STATE 301095

SUMMARY. UK TABLED PAPER AT FOURTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY
SUGGESTING DISCUSSION AT EXTENDED MEETING IN MARCH OF
STRUCTURE EXPERTS GROUP MEETING AT NINTH CONSULTATIVE
AND EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER SIMILARITY BETWEEN TERMS OF
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PAGE 02 LONDON 01472 01 OF 03 271254Z POSS DUPE

REFERENCE GIVEN TO SCAR AND TO GROUP OF EXPERTS. SOVIET
REP QUESTIONED U.S. MOTIVES BEHIND INTRODUCTION AGENDA
ITEM ON ANTARCTIC ACTIVITIES OF NON-CONSULTATIVE COUN-
TRIES AND WAS PLEASED WITH OUR REASSURANCE THAT U.S.
MERELY WISHED TO ALERT CONSULTATIVE PARTIES TO A LIKELY
DEVELOPMENT. ARGENTINE REP SUGGESTED SAME AGENDA ITEM
BE AMENDED TO EXCLUDE ACTIVITIES OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE

NOT ACCEDED TO THE TREATY. UK LETTER OF INVITATION TO EXTENDED PREPARATORY WAS AMENDED TO EXCLUDE REFERENCE TO EMPHASIS ON MARINE RESOURCES. END SUMMARY.

1. FOURTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY WAS HELD AT FCO JANUARY 25TH. UNUSUALLY LENGTHY SESSION WAS AGAIN CHAIRED BY JOHN HEAP.

2. ON WAY INTO CONFERENCE ROOM SOVIET REP KOTLIAR TOLD U.S. REP HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY HIS "AUTHORITIES" IN MOSCOW TO ASK FOR CLARIFICATION OF AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTED BY U.S. AT LAST CONSULTATIVE MEETING. KOTLIAR SAID THAT IF U.S. SPECIFICALLY WISHES THROUGH INTRODUCTION OF THIS AGENDA ITEM TO RAISE ISSUE OF POLISH CONSULTATIVE STATUS, HE WILL HAVE TO OPPOSE ITS INCLUSION. IF, HOWEVER, U.S. PURPOSE IS ONLY TO SUQGEST CONSIDERATION OF THE GENERAL PROBLEM, THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AND SOVIET DELEGATION WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS SUBJECT AT MARCH MEETING. DRAWING ON PARA 1, REFTEL (B) AND REFTEL (C), U.S. REP REPLIED THAT LATTER VERSION IS CORRECT. HE REMINDED KOTLIAR OF ASSURANCES HE HAD GIVEN AT LAST MONTHLY MEETING THAT U.S. WAS SIMPLY SUGGESTING THAT PREPARATORY GROUP MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER INCLUSION OF AGENDA ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION BY NINTH CONSULTATIVE IN LIGHT OF PROBABLE ASSERTION OF ENTITLEMENT TO ATTEND NINTH CONSULTATIVE ON PART OF A PARTICULAR COUNTRY, I.E. POLAND. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. HAS NO OBJECTION TO RECOGNIZING POLISH CONSULTATIVE STATUS SO LONG AS TREATY REQUIREMENTS ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LONDON 01472 01 OF 03 271254Z POSS DUPE

SATISFIED AND THAT U.S. WILL ALSO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION IN MARCH. KOTLIAR THANKED U.S. REP FOR THIS CLARIFICATION AND SAID THAT ON THIS BASIS HIS "AUTHORITIES" WILL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THIS AGENDA ITEM IN MARCH.

3. HEAP OPENED MEETING BY ANNOUNCING HE HAS RECEIVED NOTE FROM BELGIAN GOVERNMENT STATING THEIR APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS 8 III AND 8 VII-XIV FROM LAST CONSULTATIVE. NOTE EXPLAINS THAT OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL LEGISLATIVE STUDY BEFORE THEY CAN BE APPROVED. THERE WAS NO COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS 1(A) AND (B).

4. AGENDA ITEM 1(C). HEAP SUBMITTED UK PAPER ENTITLED "ANTARCTIC RESOURCES--THE QUESTION OF MINERAL RESOURCES EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION." (COPY WITH ATTACHMENTS WILL BE POUCHED OES JANUARY 27TH.) IT RAISES TWO MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE MEETING OF

EXPERTS ON ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE DURING NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING. FIRST ASKS WHETHER THE GROUP OF EXPERTS SHOULD MEET DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE MEETING ONLY, OR WHETHER THEY SHOULD WORK IN TANDEM WITH THE MEETING FOR A LONGER PERIOD (E.G. EXPERTS IN THE MORNING; MAIN MEETING IN THE AFTER-NOON). HEAP SUGGESTED THAT IN CONSIDERING THIS QUESTION,

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PAGE 01 LONDON 01472 02 OF 03 271256Z POSS DUPE
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 LONDON 01472

ONE BEAR IN MIND THAT ONLY ONE CONFERENCE ROOM AND ONLY ONE SET OF INTERPRETERS WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING.

5. SECOND CONCERNS THE "DETAILED OUTLINE" FOR THE

EXPERTS DISCUSSION. THIS IS CALLED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 20 OF THE REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP AT THE PARIS MEETING. HEAP RECALLED THAT AT THE SPECIAL PREPARATORY MEETING IN PARIS LAST JULY THE PRELIMINARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 LONDON 01472 02 OF 03 271256Z POSS DUPE

REPORT OF SCAR ON "ANTARCTIC RESOURCES -- EFFECTS OF MINERAL EXPLORATION" WAS WELCOMED AND IT WAS AGREED THAT SCAR SHOULD BE ASKED TO UNDERTAKE A MORE DETAILED ASSESSMENT FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING. SCAR AT THEIR XIVTH MEETING IN MENDOZA FORMED A SPECIAL BODY TO DEAL WITH THIS REQUEST -- THE GROUP OF SPECIALISTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION IN THE ANTARCTIC (EAMREA). THIS GROUP WILL MEET IN DALLAS FEBRUARY 10-11. ALSO AT THE PARIS MEETING THE SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP, REFLECTING DELEGATION VIEWS, URGED THAT "THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE CONSULTATIVE PARTIES SHOULD STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING EXPERTS ON THEIR DELEGATIONS FOR THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE IN ORDER TO EXAMINE AND REPORT UPON THE QUESTIONS LISTED ..." THESE WERE A SERIES OF POSSIBLE MINERAL ACTIVITIES IN THE ANTARCTIC.

6. HEAP SEES A POTENTIAL PROBLEM. BOTH THE SCAR GROUP AND THE PROPOSED EXPERTS GROUP AT THE NINTH MEETING HAVE BEEN ASKED TO STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF POSSIBLE MINERAL ACTIVITIES. HIS "BASIC CONCERN" IS TO ASSURE THAT THE EXPERTS MEETING NEXT FALL NOT DUPLICATE THE WORK OF THE SCAR EXPERTS. HEAP BELIEVES IT IS UP TO US TO AVOID THIS POSSIBLE DUPLICATION. HE FEELS WE CAN DO THIS BY TAKING GREAT CARE IN DRAFTING THE "DETAILED OUTLINE" CALLED FOR BY THE SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP AND THAT THIS SHOULD BE DONE AT MARCH MEETING. IT WAS AGREED THAT POINTS RAISED IN UK PAPER WOULD BE DISCUSSED FULLY AT MARCH MEETING AND THAT HEAP WOULD CONTACT SCAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN LONDON, INQUIRE AS TO LIKELY DATE OF RELEASE OF SCAR REPORT, AND ASK FOR SOME INDICATION OF THEIR WORK PLANS.

7. AGENDA ITEM 1(D). HEAP INFORMED GROUP THAT ARGENTINE REP HAD JUST HANDED HIM A PAPER ON COOPERATION IN TRANSPORT. IT AMPLIFIES HIS REMARKS AT THIRD MONTHLY MEETING. (HEAP WILL PROVIDE US WITH COPIES ASAP WHICH WE WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LONDON 01472 02 OF 03 271256Z POSS DUPE

POUCH TO OES.) HEAP ADDED THAT HE HAD HOPED TO CIRCULATE SCAR PAPER ON COOPERATION ON AIR TRANSPORTATION PREPARED

AT MENDOZA MEETING BUT THAT SCAR COMMITTEE ON LOGISTICS FEELS PAPER SHOULD BE SENT TO NATIONAL ANTARCTIC COMMITTEES FOR COMMENT AND REVISION BEFORE SUBMITTING IT TO TREATY GOVERNMENTS. PAPER SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BEFORE EXTENDED MEETING IN MARCH. THERE WAS NO COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 1(E).

8. AGENDA ITEM 1(F). SOVIET REP SAID "THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN MOSCOW" HAVE INFORMED HIM THAT THIS AGENDA ITEM WAS SUGGESTED BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY THEIR HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PEOPLE WERE HAVING IN PREPARING "COHERENT FACSIMILE CHARTS" OWING TO IRREGULAR RECEIPT OF METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION FROM SOME ANTARCTIC STATIONS. HE REFERRED TO RECOMMENDATIONS MADE AT FOURTH AND FIFTH CONSULTATIVES ON THE GATHERING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION. HE SAID HIS "AUTHORITIES" SIMPLY PROPOSE TO DISCUSS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAYS OF IMPROVING THE PROCEDURES.

9. AGENDA ITEM 1(G). ARGENTINE REP ASKED IF IT WAS SPECIFIC INTENT OF USG TO INCLUDE ACTIVITIES OF THIRD COUNTRIES WHO HAVE NOT ACCEDED TO THE ANTARCTIC TREATY IN THIS AGENDA ITEM. HE NOTED THAT IN PAST THESE COUNTRIES OR PARTIES HAVE GENERALLY BEEN HANDLED SEPARATELY AND SUGGESTED THAT AGENDA ITEM BE AMENDED TO READ: "COUNTRIES WHICH, HAVING ACCEDED TO THE ANTARCTIC TREATY, ARE ...". AS THIRD PARTIES WERE NOT MENTIONED REFTEL (C), U.S. REP SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO RESERVE COMMENT ON SUGGESTED CHANGE. ALL OTHER PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT CHANGE IN AGENDA ITEM AS ARGENTINE REP HAD SUGGESTED WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA. THERE WAS ALSO GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT QUESTION OF AN AGENDA ITEM DEALING SPECIFICALLY WITH ACTIVITIES OF THIRD PARTIES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 LONDON 01472 02 OF 03 271256Z POSS DUPE

SOME LATER MEETING. PLEASE ADVISE U.S. POSITION ON SUGGESTED AMENDMENT THIS DRAFT AGENDA ITEM.

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10. SOVIET REP RAISED QUESTION DISCUSSED PARA 2 ABOVE.
FOLLOWING U.S. RESPONSE AND SUPPORTING STATEMENT FROM
HEAP, SOVIET REP EXPRESSED TO GROUP HIS PLEASURE WITH
CLARIFICATION AND SAID HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION TO MARCH
MEETING WILL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF ANTARCTIC
ACTIVITIES OF COUNTRIES, WHICH HAVING ACCEDED TO THE
ANTARCTIC TREATY, ARE NOT CONSULTATIVE PARTIES. HEAP
ADDED THAT IN CONNECTION WITH THIS QUESTION HE THOUGHT
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PAGE 02 LONDON 01472 03 OF 03 271258Z POSS DUPE

IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CIRCULATE AN EXTRACT FROM THE SCAR-
MENDOZA MEETING REPORT CONTAINING REFERENCES TO THE
POLISH PRESENCE AND AN APPENDIX TO THE REPORT CONTAINING
STATEMENT BY DR. SUSZCZEWSKI FROM THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF
ECOLOGY. (EXTRACT FROM SCAR MEETING WHICH ALSO INCLUDES
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EAMREA AND WILL BE POUCHED TO OES
JAN. 27.)

11. AGENDA ITEM 2. HEAP SAID THAT DRAFT LETTER OF INVI-

TATION TO MARCH MEETING WAS CIRCULATED NOT FOR APPROVAL BUT TO SEEK REPRESENTATIVES' "OBSERVATIONS." SOVIET REP SUGGESTED REFERENCE TO MARINE LIVING RESOURCES RECEIVING "SPECIAL ATTENTION" BE DROPPED AS NOT ALL TREATY MEMBERS AOREE THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED. AUSTRALIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO PARTICULAR AGENDA ITEMS WHEN NOT ALL TREATY MEMBERS WERE IN AGREEMENT ON HOW TO APPROACH THE MEETING. AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION HEAP DECIDED IT WOULD BE PRESUMPTUOUS OF HIM TO PLACE EMPHASIS ON ANY PARTICULAR AGENDA ITEM AND THAT PARAGRAPH 3 OF INVITATION WILL NOW READ AS FOLLOWS: "A COPY OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING, AS IT STANDS AT THE DATE OF THIS INVITATION, IS ATTACHED. IT IS EXPECTED THAT PRE-LIMINARY CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING TO ALL THE ITEMS IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA, TOGETHER WITH ANY ADDITIONAL ITEMS WHICH GOVERNMENTS MAY WISH TO PROPOSE EITHER BEFORE OR AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING."

12. THERE WAS NO OTHER BUSINESS. THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, AT 1500 HOURS.

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Message Attributes

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